

VIA: Air Pouch
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DISPATCH NO. WELA-5518

SECRET
CLASSIFICATION

TO: Chief, FDW
FROM: Chief, []
SUBJECT: GENERAL
SPECIFIC: Mr. Gustav Hilger

DATE: 14 March 1951

1. In a recent conversation with [] he mentioned that Mr. Gustav Hilger was believed to be in the United States at the present time. [] stated that in his opinion, Hilger was a Russian expert of considerable value who should be exploited to the very best advantage. He did not know whether in fact Hilger was being profitably employed at the present time.
2. [] has furnished the following data in regard to Hilger. It is passed to Headquarters because Hilger might be of interest and use to our organization:

"German national, born in Moscow in 1886, elder son of Engineer HILGER, owner of a machine-making factory in Moscow. Educated in Moscow and Germany.

"In 1920 entered the service of the German Consulate General in Moscow as a clerk, later assimilated into the German Foreign Service and sent to Berlin for training. Returned to Moscow in the late twenties and worked in the Commercial Department of the German Embassy, eventually obtaining the rank of Counsellor (Botschaftsrat). Meanwhile married Fr. HACKENTHAL, younger daughter of a prominent German industrialist in Moscow.

"In 1931/35 was brought to the notice of HITLER as a Russian economic expert and from that time on was used by Dr. Paul SCHMITT, Chief of the Interpreters Department, German Foreign Office, as Russian translator and interpreter. Attended most of the important meetings concerned with Soviet-German negotiations and was in attendance on RIBBENTROP in Moscow at the signing of the non-aggression pact in 1939.

"During the war was deputy head of the Russian Research Department of the German Foreign Office and visited the Baltic States and German occupied territory in Russia.

"On the cessation of hostilities was detained for a time by the Allies in Germany, but eventually released.

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)
(2)(A) Privacy
(2)(B) Methods/Sources
(2)(C) Foreign Relations

Declassified and Approved for Release
by the Central Intelligence Agency
Date: 2004, 2005

2-
"In 1949 reported to have gone to the United States.

"Languages: Russian (bi-lingual), French (fair)."

3. It is requested that information concerning Mr. Elliger
available at Headquarters be furnished this station.

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